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Title:

Statement: Italian liaison officer

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date..... September 13., 1976.

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
227 2688

ITALIAN LIAISON OFFICER.

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, has appointed an Italian-speaking officer to his Department.

Mr. John Colussi has been appointed as an Enquiry Officer within the Department with the special role of liaison with the Italian community of South Australia.

Mr. Colussi came to Australia in 1956 and qualified as a teacher. He taught for a number of years in Melbourne before returning to Italy to study and then travelled to America for further studies leading to a Master of Arts in Counselling.

After returning to Australia, Mr. Colussi resumed teaching and worked also as a marriage counsellor and community development officer in Sydney.

Until his secondment to the Premier's Department, Mr. Colussi was employed by the Department for Community Welfare as the staff development officer in Murray Bridge.

"I am very pleased to welcome Mr. Colussi to my staff", Mr. Dunstan said.

The Government has always been anxious that the needs and problems of migrant groups in South Australia are given special attention. We have started a range of assistance to various groups.

"Interpreting facilities have been upgraded, consumer protection booklets printed in various languages and special assistance given to teaching and fostering ethnic cultures.

"Mr. Colussi's appointment will be of great assistance to both the Government and the ethnic community because he will be dealing with problems which the various communities bring to him and from this he will be able to advise me directly on matters which the Government should attend to".

Mr. Colussi's office is in the Premier's Department, 11th floor, State Administration Centre, Victoria Square. His telephone number is 227 4649.



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